

WALSINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

-----oOo-----

ANNUAL

REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

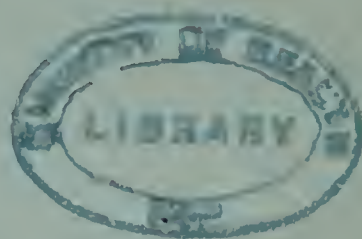
for the year

1946

to which is
appended the

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

---oOo---



STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:

L.G. ANDERSON, M.D.Liverp., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Surveyor & Senior Sanitary Inspector:

H.E. GILBY, F.R.I.C.S., M.Inst.Mun.E., Cert.S.I.B.,
Cert.R.S.I., as Inspector of Meat & Other Foods.

Deputy Surveyor & Additional Sanitary Inspector:

A.H. EAGLE, Cert.S.I.B., A.M.I.S.E.,
Cert.R.S.I., as Inspector of Meat & Other Foods.

District Water Engineer:

E. HAYMAN.

Assistant to Surveyor & Senior Sanitary Inspector:

L.H. DOUGHTY.
(Now serving with H.M. Forces.)

Temporary Shorthand Typist:

MISS E.M. WATERSON.
(From Jan.1st to Sept.7th,1946.)

Shorthand-Typist:

MISS J.H. LEWIS.
(From 30th Sept.1946 to date.)

Temporary Clerical Assistant.
(Hobhouse Rural Housing Survey):

R.F. HERRING.
(From 30th Sept.1946 to date.)

Clerk to Medical Officer of Health:

D. HUNN.
(Returned from Royal Navy 2nd.Sept.1946.)

WALSINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Council Offices,
FAKENHAM,
Norfolk.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR
ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1946.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1946. In view of the unavoidable delay which occurs before the receipt of the Registrar-General's statistical figures it was considered desirable that an interim report should be submitted to you in order that you might have before you at the earliest possible time the salient features relative to the health of your district for the previous year. An Interim Annual Report was therefore submitted to your Public Health Committee on the 9th April, 1947. This report was based on statistics obtained from the local office registers and as these statistics were compiled from the 1945 mid-year population and also did not take into account such factors as inward and outward transfers of births, revision of classification of causes of death, they will be found to differ slightly from those contained in this report.

The problem of shortage of staff was in great part solved by the appointing of Mr. A.H. Eagle to the post of Deputy Surveyor and Additional Sanitary Inspector on the 12th Dec. 1945, and Mr. R.F. Herring to the post of Temporary Clerical Assistant to the Public Health Department on the 30th Sept. 1946. Mr. D. Hunn, Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health, returned from War Service to take up duties on the 2nd Sept. 1946.

The Diphtheria Immunisation Scheme continued to function well and the results are considered to be most encouraging.

In conclusion I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their progressive and encouraging support and the staff for their loyal co-operation for upon these factors depends the continued progress towards improving the public health conditions of our district.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

L.G ANDERSON. M.D.,Ch.B.,D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) 88,818.
Resident population mid-year 1946 (as
estimated by the Registrar-General) 17,150.
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1946) 6,449.
Rateable Value (end of 1946)£67,723.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate £286.

VITAL STATISTICS.

(1). Live Births.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate.	141	149	290.
Illegitimate.	11	11	22.
Total.	152.	160.	312.

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated
Resident Population 18.2
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of Civilian
Population. England & Wales 19.1

(2). Still Births.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate.	3	7	10.
Illegitimate.	-	-	--
Total.	3.	7.	10.

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated
Resident Population 0.58
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of Civilian
Population. England & Wales. 0.53

(3). Deaths.

<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
109.	110.	219.

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated
Resident Population 12.8
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of Civilian
Population. England & Wales. 11.5

Deaths from puerperal causes Nil.
(No area comparability figure is available as yet.)

(4). Infant Mortality.(Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.)

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate.	5	5	10.
Illegitimate.	-	-	--
Total.	5.	5.	10.

Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births 32.1
 Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births
 England & Wales 43.0

As compared with the previous year the number of live births in the district showed an increase from 292 in 1945 to 312 in 1946, whilst the number of deaths increased from 202 in 1945 to 219 in 1946. The chief causes of death were heart disease, cerebral haemorrhage, cancer and senility. Many of the deaths included under the headings heart disease and cerebral haemorrhage might just as well been classed as senility as they occurred in the age groups 80 to 90. The greatest incidence of deaths occurred in the age group 70 to 80 whilst the next highest incidence was recorded in group 80 to 90. 12 deaths occurred in age group 90 to 100.

Infant Mortality showed a slight fall from 11 deaths in 1945 to 10 in 1946. The causes of death of these infants, details of which are in our Register, are given in the following table:-

Sex.	Age.	Cause of Death.
F.	3 hours.	Prematurity.
M.	9 hours.	Prematurity.
F.	18 hours.	Prematurity.
M.	3 days.	Haemorrhagic disease of the newborn
F.	4 days.	Heart disease.
M.	2 weeks.	Marasmus. (Prematurity).
F.	2 months.	Coma and Convulsions.
M.	3 months.	Cong.malformations of heart.

The Zymotic death rate for the year was 0.00. This is the rate due to smallpox, measles, whooping cough, scarlet fever, diphtheria, and diarrhoea under two years of age.

Death from:	1946.
Smallpox	0.00
Measles	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00
Enteric Fever	0.00
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0.00
Zymotic death rate	0.00

Below is given a table showing the causes of death as supplied by the local Registrar of Births and Deaths:-

Cause of Death.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Heart disease.	43	38	81.
Cancer.	17	17	34.
Cerebral Haemorrhage.	6	11	17.
Senility.	10	10	20.
Pneumonia (all types).	2	3	5.
Gangrene.	-	1	1.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	4	4	8.
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.	2	-	2.
Accidents.	2	-	2.
Suicide.	1	2	3.
Prematurity.	2	2	4.
Diabetes.	-	2	2.
Uraemia.	6	1	7.
Cretinism.	-	1	1.
Bronchitis.	1	2	3.
Blood Disease.	-	2	2.
Rheumatoid Arthritis.	-	1	1.
Ac. Cholecystitis.	-	1	1.
Meningococcal Meningitis.	-	1	1.
Hernia.	1	-	1.
Addisons Disease.	1	-	1.
Pernicious Anaemia.	1	-	1.
Ac. Intestinal Obstruction.	-	1	1.
Congenital Malformations.	1	1	2.
Haemorrhage of the Newborn.	1	-	1.
Convulsions.	-	1	1.
All Causes:-	101.	102.	203.

The following table shows the incidence of deaths at various age groups:-

Age Group.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1 year.	4	4	8.
1 and under 2.	-	-	-
2 " " 5.	1	-	1.
5 " " 10.	1	1	2.
10 " " 20.	-	-	-
20 " " 30.	1	5	6.
30 " " 40.	3	-	3.
40 " " 50.	2	8	10.
50 " " 60.	7	6	13.
60 " " 70.	17	14	31.
70 " " 80.	37	32	69.
80 " " 90.	25	23	48.
90 " " 100.	3	9	12.
	101.	102.	203.

Cancer.

The Registrar-General's record of the number of deaths from cancer rose during the year from 24 in 1945 to 39 in 1946 and the incidence is above the average for the past 8 years. Below is given the various types of cancer, details of which are contained in our Register:-

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Alimentary system.	13	8	21.
Genito-urinary.	2	7	9.
Brain.	1	-	1.
Bone.	-	2	2.
Skin.	1	-	1.
	17.	17.	34.

It will be seen that the alimentary system (stomach, colon etc.) is that most affected.

The following table shows the incidence of cancer during the past 8 years:-

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946.
Males.	16	14	20	22	22	8	11	21
Females.	20	15	19	22	19	14	13	18
Total.	36	29	39	44	41	22	24	39.

The following table summarises the vital statistics during the past 8 years:-

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946.
Population.	17040	16940	17560	16830	16830	17410	17220	17150
Live Births.	244	240	259	285	282	336	292	312
Still Births	8	13	9	20	11	4	9	10
Deaths.	236	231	251	219	233	234	202	219
Infant Mortality.	9	10	16	9	7	7	11	10.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)

The incidence of infectious diseases for the year is given in the following table:-

Disease.	Total Cases.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever.	15.	-
Pneumonia.	9.	-
Jaundice.	1.	-
Diphtheria.	2.	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	2.	-
Meningitis.	2.	-
Erysipelas.	2.	-
All Causes:-	33.	-

The following table shows the incidence of infectious diseases grouped according to age:-

Disease.	Under One	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-	Total
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	1	-	-	6	-	1	4	3	-	-	15.
Pneumonia.	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	3	1	9.
Jaundice.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1.
Diphtheria.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2.
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2.
Meningitis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2.
Erysipelas.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2.
All Causes:-	1	-	2	-	-	8	-	3	8	5	4	2	33.

2 cases of diphtheria were notified (male aged 26 and female aged 37) neither of whom had been previously immunised.

2 cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified. These cases occurred at Briston and Kettlestone.

The incidence of infectious disease (33 cases) remained at a satisfactorily low level and was slightly lower than that of the previous year (34 cases)

The following table shows the incidence of infectious diseases for the past 8 years:-

Disease.	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Scarlet Fever.	3	17	39	16	37	59	13	15
Pneumonia.	5	8	6	4	11	6	11	9
Erysipelas.	1	2	4	2	6	10	7	2
Diphtheria.	19	2	2	-	3	-	-	2
Puerperal Pyrexia.	3	1	-	2	1	-	-	2
Meningitis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-
Jaundice.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever.	1	1	3	1	-	-	-	-
Pemphigus.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Dysentery.	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-
Enteric Fever.	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Total:-	34.	31.	55.	25.	60.	82.	34.	33.

MEASLES & WHOOPING COUGH.

The incidence of measles and whooping cough remained at a low level and no deaths from these two diseases occurred.

Disease.	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946.
Measles.	95	406	38	88	116	106	82
Whooping Cough.	24	15	44	9	102	4	45
Total:-	119	421	82	97	218	110	127

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 15 new cases of tuberculosis were notified, 7 males and 8 females. Of these new cases 11 were tuberculosis of the lungs and 4 tuberculosis of other organs.

The following table shows the incidence of new cases for each of the past 8 years. 2 males and 2 females were notified as having been cured and their names were in consequence removed from the register. 10 cases (6 males and 4 females) died from the disease during the year.

		1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946.
Pulmonary.	M	9	8	15	8	8	14	5	5
	F	4	8	13	6	6	3	3	6
Non-Pulmonary.	M	1	7	8	6	6	2	5	2
	F	5	3	12	8	6	3	3	2
Total.		19	26	48	28	26	22	16	15.

Details of new cases and deaths from Tuberculosis during 1946 are as shown in the table below:-

Age Period	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory		Non-Resp:	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	-
15 -	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
25 -	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	-
35 -	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 -	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-
55 -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 -	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
All Ages	5	6	2	2	4	4	2	-
	11		4		8		2	
	15				10			

The number of cases still on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year is as follows:-

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Pulmonary.	37	22	59
Non-Pulmonary.	23	22	45
Total:-	60	44	104.

A scheme is being put into operation whereby on receipt of the notification that a person is suffering from tuberculosis the housing conditions and milk supply will be investigated.

The following table gives the birth-rates, death-rates, an analysis of mortality, and case-rates for certain infectious diseases in 1946. The rates for England and Wales, for 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, for 148 Smaller Towns, for London, and for the Walsingham Rural District to show the comparison.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly & Quarterly Returns)

	Walsingham R.D.	England & Wales	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 census	London Adminis- trative County.
BIRTHS:	Rates per 1,000 Population.				
Live	18.2	19.1	22.2	21.3	21.5
Still : ..	0.58	0.53	0.67	0.59	0.54
DEATHS:					
All Causes ..	12.8	11.5	12.7	11.7	12.7
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	---
Measles ...	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
Scarlet Fever...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough..	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Diphtheria ...	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Influenza ...	0.17	0.15	0.13	0.14	0.12
NOTIFICATIONS:					
Typhoid Fever ...	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01
Cerebro-spinal Fever	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.06
Scarlet Fever ...	0.87	1.38	1.51	1.33	1.42
Whooping Cough...	2.62	2.28	2.48	2.05	2.22
Diphtheria ...	0.12	0.28	0.32	0.31	0.24
Erysipelas ...	0.12	0.22	0.25	0.22	0.27
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles ...	4.78	3.92	4.73	3.70	7.35
Pneumonia ...	0.52	0.89	1.02	0.74	0.75
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 year of age ...	32.00	43.00	46.00	37.00	41.00
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age...	0.00	4.40	6.10	2.80	4.20
	Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still.)				
NOTIFICATIONS:					
Puerperal Fever } Puerperal Pyrexia }	6.21	8.50	10.35	7.63	{ 1.62 9.68

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The Diphtheria Immunisation Scheme initiated by the District Council was continued throughout the year and 233 pre-school children and 117 children of school age were immunised. In addition to the initial immunisation 510 children of school age were given a re-inforcing injection of diphtheria prophylactic.

The following table shows the immunisation state of the children in the district:-

	Under School Age.					5 - 9 years	10 - 14 years	Total.
	Under One	1-	2-	3-	4-			
Numbers Immunised	2	103	144	163	179	881 1912	1031	2503
Estimated Population.	1370					2166		3536
Percentage Immunised.	43%					88%		72%
Numbers Re-inforced.	-					510		510

⌘ These figures are in respect of children attending public primary, secondary and grammar Schools in the Walsingham Rural District.

As from January 1st, 1946 the diphtheria immunisation of children under school age was made the responsibility of the Norfolk County Council Welfare Service. On the 1st April, 1946 a revised scale of fees to general practitioners was adopted as follows:-

- (a) For cases treated at a Doctor's surgery or at a centre other than on a sessional basis 3/- per injection.
- (b) For cases treated in the home of the patient 6/- per injection plus mileage 1/- per mile one way for distances over 1 mile.
- (c) Treatment at a Centre for a session not exceeding 1½ hours, £1.11.6. plus 10/6 for each additional half hour and mileage at 1/- per mile one way.

I should like to record my sincere appreciation to the general practitioners, district nurses, school teachers and all others who have to do so much to help to make the Diphtheria Immunisation Scheme a success.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological and seriological examinations are carried out at the Emergency Medical Services Public Health Laboratory, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich, under the direction of Dr. MacDonald whose ready co-operation and help I wish to acknowledge.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Ambulance service of the district is covered by the Home Ambulance Service of the Joint Council of the St. John's & British Red Cross Society.

There are two Ambulance Stations, one at Fakenham and one at Holt.

Fakenham Ambulance carried in 1946, 238 cases and covered 12,509 miles and Holt Ambulance carried 306 cases and covered 13,096 miles. These of course include cases outside the district which are in the respective ambulance areas.

There is also a hospital car service in connection with each station for the removal of sitting cases to and from hospital.

The Ambulances are run by voluntary members of the two organisations and the hospital car service by volunteer drivers obtained by these and the W.V.S.

Infectious cases are carried by the County Council Ambulance stationed at the Isolation Hospital at East Dereham.

HOSPITALS - PUBLIC & VOLUNTARY.

There are no Hospitals in the Walsingham Rural District. General Medical and Surgical cases are admitted to the

- (1) Norfolk & Norwich Hospital, Norwich.
- (2) West Norfolk & King's Lynn Hospital, King's Lynn.
- (3) Jenny Lind Children's Hospital, Norwich.
- (4) Cromer & District Hospital, Cromer.
- (5) Cottage Hospital, Wells-next-the-Sea.

There are no Maternity Hospitals, or private Maternity Homes in this district and mothers wishing to have their babies in a maternity home must go either to

- (1) Stowe Vicarage, Stowe.
- (2) The Burleigh, Sandringham Road, Hunstanton.
- (3) Dawning Port, Brook Road, Sheringham.

unless they wish to go still further afield. The provision of a Maternity Home under the direction of the County Council Maternity Scheme is still one of the urgent necessities of the present time.

Infectious disease cases are admitted when necessary to the County Council's Isolation Hospital at East Dereham.

INFANT WELFARE.

Infant Welfare Centres under the direction of the County Medical Officer are held at the following places and times:-

BINHAM, The Reading Room.	Held on 1st Tues. in the month.
FAKENHAM, Court House, Holt Rd.	" " 2nd Wed. " " "
" " "	" " 3rd Thurs. " " "
MELTON CONSTABLE, Railway Inst.	" " 1st Wed. " " "

Attendances continue to be good, due in great part to the energetic efforts of the local district nurses. The Clinics are also used as Diphtheria Immunisation centres for children under five years of age and it is gratifying to note that practically all the mothers who attend accept for their children the immunisation offered.

FACTORIES. WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES TABLES.

1. INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices (3)	Prose- cutions. (4)
FACTORIES with mechanical power	6	-	-
without " "	8	3	-
WORKPLACES	-	-	-
Total:-	14	3	-

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prose- cutions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Reme- died. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
<u>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:-</u>				
Want of Cleanliness	2	2	-	-
Want of Ventilation	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-
Want of Drainage of floors	-	-	-	-
Other Nuisances	-	-	-	-
Sanitary (insufficient	-	-	-	-
Accommo- (unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-
dation (not seperate for sexes	-	-	-	-
<u>Offences under the Factory & Workshop Act:-</u>				
Illegal occupation of under- ground Bakehouses	-	-	-	-
Breach of special sanitary requirements for Bakehouses	-	-	-	-
Other Offences	1	1	-	-
Total:-	3	3	-	-

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion it may be stated that the general health of the community in the Walsingham Rural District has remained satisfactory during the year. The great problems of rehousing those people who are living in insanitary houses, in overcrowded conditions or are compelled to share houses with others still remain with us. The provision of more up-to-date schools with better accommodation and hygiene facilities in place of those so well known to be most unsatisfactory is also an urgent necessity. Both these problems are being dealt with by the respective authorities as expeditiously as the present shortage of man-power and building materials will allow.

W A L S I N G H A M R U R A L
D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

R E P O R T

of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year ending 31st. December 1946.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my eighth and last annual Report for the year ending 31st. December 1946, which follows in the main the practice adopted during the war years showing the work carried out by the Public Health Department as far as possible in a number of tables.

The first of these shows the number of inspections made for all purposes during the year.

<u>Nature of Inspection</u>	<u>No. of visits</u>
Housing inspections (Hobhouse Survey)	2255
Housing inspections (excluding above)	142
Housing inspections (Re-visits)	329
Public Health Inspections	251
Public Health Re-visits	359
Inspections of cowsheds and dairies	273
Inspections of slaughterhouses and food shops	58
Inspections of sewers, sewer ditches, sewage works, etc.	317
Inspections in connection with scavenging arrangements	305
Investigations respecting infectious and contagious disease	34
Rooms disinfected	31
Inspections of Public Conveniences	25
Inspections of factories and workshops	14
Inspections of Petroleum stores	34
Miscellaneous visits to owners etc.	235
Inspections in connection with District water supply scheme (Houghton Well)	93
Inspections re Building Licences (Civil Building Control)	156
Inspections in connection with the Government Evacuation Scheme	11
Total inspections for all purposes	<u>4922</u>

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Following upon the completion of the survey of the

facilities in the Parish of Fakenham the Council made an important decision in respect of the arrangements for the collection of nightsoil in those portions of the town where both sewers and main water supply are available and all owners and occupiers were given written notice of the Council's intention to terminate all night scavenging as from 31st. July 1947.

A steady stream of applicants desiring advice on closet conversion resulted and the local builders were unable to satisfy all demands in this respect due to shortage of labour and materials, particularly the latter.

HOBHOUSE RURAL HOUSING SURVEY

This Survey was pressed steadily forward but owing to other urgent calls upon the time of the staff and due also to unavoidable delays caused by changes in personnel, the Survey was not more than two thirds complete by the end of the year.

The following table shows details of the Survey:-

3 Parishes surveyed in 1945 (Hempton, Pudding Norton and Great Ryburgh)

18 Parishes surveyed in 1946.

A survey of the Parish of Fulmodestone has also been commenced.

A summary of the condition found in all of the 21 Parishes surveyed is set down in detail below:-

Parish	Total No. of dwellings	Classification				Condemned
		I	II	III	V	
Hempton	147	39	37	46	25	-
Pudding Norton	52	30	18	4	-	-
Great Ryburgh	158	31	56	54	16	1
Dunton	19	4	6	3	6	-
including Doughton	20	1	2	17	-	-
Toftrees	20	2	11	7	-	-
Shereford	23	1	9	13	-	-
Helhoughton	81	8	25	35	13	-
Kettlestone	51	9	17	13	12	-
incl. Pensthorpe	11	1	5	5	-	-
Little Ryburgh	27	3	10	8	6	-
Sculthorpe	181	63	56	44	18	-
Tatterford	21	4	12	4	1	-
incl. Tattersett	28	2	11	14	1	-
Raynham (East, West and South)	119	17	47	38	17	-
Barshams (East, West and North)	89	23	37	17	11	5
Houghton	37	3	6	11	17	9
Little Walsingham	198	44	61	60	33	2
Totals forward	1282	285	426	393	176	17

Hobhouse Housing Survey

Parish	Total No. of dwellings	Classification				Condemned
		I	II	III	V	
Total forward	1282	285	426	393	176	17
Great Walsingham	170	83	35	28	24	-
Holkham	109	69	16	23	1	-
Wighton	110	22	30	38	20	5
Warham	107	41	11	44	11	6
Stiffkey	128	43	20	27	38	4
Morston	53	26	10	9	8	2
Blakeney	280	111	46	99	24	2
Fakenham	862	418	202	170	72	-
	3101	1098	796	831	374	36

The classification is as follows:-

Class I House fit in all respects for human habitation.

Class II House fit after minor repairs.

Class III House fit after major repairs.

Class V House unfit for human habitation and incapable of being rendered fit at reasonable expense.

This is not a final classification and it may well be that many houses in Class III will be re-classified as V. This position cannot be fully clarified until detailed information of each house becomes available after careful individual inspection. No attempt has been made to classify any dwelling in Class IV - house suitable for conversion under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts. This omission is due to the fact that Class IV is in effect a sub-division of the main classes III and V, although the amount of money that an owner is prepared to spend is often the deciding factor apart from the position which has arisen due to the lapse of the Rural Workers Acts.

Jointly with the foregoing a survey of sanitary arrangements has been put in hand in connection with the proposed District Scavenging Scheme, while the policy of allocating Street numbers wherever possible was continued.

During the course of the year 440 letters were sent requesting attention to various matters at 671 premises. One Statutory Notice was served requiring essential repairs to one dwelling and the necessary repairs were made without recourse to legal proceedings being necessary.

The following table summarises the works of repair carried out as a result of this action.

<u>Nature of works</u>	<u>No. of cases brought to notice of owner.</u>
Windows, window sills	34

Nature of works

No of cases brought
to notice of owner.

Floors	30
Plaster to walls and ceilings	119
Stairs requiring repair	13
Excessive dampness	17
Walls requiring repair	26
Overcrowded houses	32
Houses demolished	-
Firegrates and coppers	35
House roofs	146
Accumulation of refuse	2
Outbuildings	39
Dangerous structures	27
Provision of proper and/or improved water facilities	34
Provision of inter-communicating doors	4
Cleansing of wells	45
Provision of Sanitary Ashbins	45
Conversion of properties to provide housing facilities	7
Road surface reinstatement and repairs	7
Cesspool nuisances	6
Conversion of privy pits to Pail or Water Closets	20
Provision of cooking facilities	67
Repairs to doors	30
Repairs to rainwater guttering	32
Sewerage	27
Drainage	54
Chimneys	32

CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDING

The system of licensing first brought into operation in 1945 was modified during the year, the result of the alteration being that even more work was made the responsibility of the Local Authority. The Senior Sanitary Inspector continued to act as Licensing Officer except for the issue of licenses in respect of new dwellings.

A small executive sub-committee was appointed to deal with difficult applications and carried out much useful work. The work is summarised in the following tables which indicate that the volume in 1946 was roughly four times that of 1945:-

(a) Maintenance licences issued.		Type of premises	No.of Licences	No.of properties	Authorised Max. Expenditure
	Estates		6	105	£5,930. 0. 0
(b) Operational Licences issued.					
i.	Dwellings, repairs, etc.	375	463	27,783. 9. 0	
ii.	Dwellings, new	21	24	26,650. 0. 0	
iii.	Agricultural	34	35	2,894.17. 6	
iv.	Business and other	124	127	4,079. 4. 7	
		560	754	£68,237.11. 1	

Twenty two licences were reduced in amount by a total of £1,724.0.2. whilst eighteen others were refused, the refusals amounting to £1,917.14.3. Twenty four licences were forwarded to the Regional Licensing Officer for approval, amounting to £8,187.8.10.

HOUSING ACTS - Regulation 68A of the Emergency Powers (Defence) General Regulations

Temporary licences permitting the occupation of nine condemned dwellinghouses have been renewed.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES

During the year 273 visits were made to cowsheds and dairies (approximately the same number as in 1945) attention being called to unsatisfactory methods of production in a number of cases.

The following table summarises the entries in the Council's registers at the end of the year:-

Wholesalers	123
Retail Purveyors	63
Dairymen	4
Producers from outside the District retailing within the District	6

Graded milks

The number of cowkeepers holding licences to produce accredited milk was 33 whilst 5 producers held licences to produce "Tuberculin Tested" milk. In the Fakenham area an important dairy project designed to improve the quality of milk supplied in the area was approaching completion at the end of the year, thus making available for sale by retail both heat-treated and graded milks for the first time in this locality.

The Norfolk County Council decided to withdraw the powers delegated to District Councils in respect of the sampling of accredited milk, this being with effect from the 31st. March. 40 samples of milk were taken for comparison with the methylene blue test during the first quarter of the year and 34 were satisfactory.

Bulk samples

115 samples of milk were taken from non-designated producers' premises for biological examination for Tuberculosis and of these one proved positive. A cow was subsequently eliminated from the herd concerned and destroyed under the Tuberculosis Order 1938.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND FOODSHOPS

58 inspections of slaughterhouses and foodshops were made

and the following carcasses were examined:-

Oxen - 3. Sheep - Nil. Pigs - 36.

The following were found to be diseased or otherwise unsound and were disposed of so as not to be used for the food of man:-

Beef - 2 Ox carcasses and all offal.
1 Liver
223½ lbs. Beef.

Pork - 1 Pig's head

Mutton - Nil

Tinned or bottled food - 13 tins meat, 250 tins milk, 6 tins soup, 35 tins vegetables, 23 tins of jam and syrup.

Other food - 25 lbs. bacon, 112 lbs cheese, 25 lbs. dried raisins,
11 packets of cereals, 2 tins fruit, 1 cwt. fish
(assorted cod and plaice)

Total weight of foodstuffs mentioned above:- 13 cwt. 104 lbs.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

Shallow Sewers. Repeated patching of the old shallow sewers in Blakeney, Hempton, West Raynham, Little Snoring, Tatterford and Little Walsingham has been necessary during the year and on economic grounds alone replacement is very desirable, whilst from the viewpoint of the public health the present systems must be regarded as a constant menace and reproach to those responsible over many years.

Sewer ditches. During the course of the year sewer ditches at Blakeney, Great Snoring, Little Walsingham, Gt. Ryburgh and Brinton received attention.

Sewerage Works - Fakenham. Routine overhaul of the pumping plant and engines was again made during the year whilst the engines and pumps have worked a total of 3,325 hours, giving an average of nearly 9 hours 7 mins. pumping per day, and increase of 8 mins. per day on the corresponding figure for 1945. It is worthy of note that only a small daily margin of pumping time is now available whilst the present working arrangements are continued at Hall Staithe. The total rainfall during the year was 32.31 inches, an increase of 2.74 inches over the figure for 1945.

Melton Constable. Normal maintenance work was carried out and there was a complaint of flooding at two places in the Parish, this being due to the inadequacy of existing sewers to deal with heavy rainfalls. No easy remedy appeared possible and the matter must be borne in mind when the new sewerage scheme for the Parish is under consideration.

Pudding Norton. Ordinary maintenance was carried on and at the end of the year there was a prospect that the grave recurrent nuisance from the drainage of the Council Housing Estate at East View, Hempton would be dealt with by connection to this system. It is to be hoped that this measure will be practicable at an early date.

Great Walsingham. In this case also ordinary maintenance was carried on and the Council was negotiating for the purchase of the works at the end of the year. They will subsequently be used to treat sewage from the Walsinghams and Wighton.

PUBLIC CLEANSING. The year has seen a great step forward in that the first stage of the District Scavenging Scheme using motor vehicles operated by direct labour and based on the Hall Staithe Depot at Eckenham was brought into operation in August.

The scheme at present embraces the collection of house refuse and nightsoil in the parishes of Eckenham, Little and Great Ryburgh part of Littlestone, Pensthorpe, Hempton, Pudding Norton, Walsinghams (including Houghton) Little and Great Walsingham. The vehicles have proved very satisfactory in use but great difficulties have been experienced so far as labour is concerned.

The Council has further decided to extend the scheme on the following basis -

- (a) House refuse collection from the entire district.
- (b) Nightsoil collection sufficient to take over all existing contracts, with extensions to parishes not at present served when main drainage becomes available in other parishes, thus making nightsoil collection redundant.
- (c) The emptying of cesspools throughout the District.

Provisional approval of the proposals for the enlargement of the Hall Staithe Depot has been signified by the Ministry of Health and every effort is being made to get the works completed at an early date. Provided no unforeseen delays develop it is anticipated that the Depot should be ready for use by the late autumn of the coming year and proposals for the future extension of the scheme have been made on this basis.

For the time being contracts continue to exist in the parishes of Blakeney, Giffkey and Briston but these will become redundant when the Direct Labour Scheme is extended. Notwithstanding the difficulty attendant upon the extension of the Council's main scheme, there seems to be no doubt that its operation will be welcomed in all portions of the District, whether there has previously been a parish scheme or not.

WATER SUPPLIES. The entire Rural District is eventually to be served by a system which aims at providing a pure and wholesome supply of mains water to all except isolated premises, and this project received an exceptionally good start in the success of stage I which provided for the sinking of a new well at Houghton St. Giles.

The work was carried out by Messrs. Lohane, Mackenzie & Stand of Derby under the control of Messrs. A.J. Cotterell & Son the Council's

Consulting Engineers, with local supervision in the hands of the Surveyor, the aim being to sink a well 100 feet deep into the chalk subsoil of the Stiffkey Valley, and the estimated output being 12,000 gallons per hour.

The site proved very suitable and the copious yield of excellent water an embarrassment to those concerned in the management of the work which eventually ceased at a depth of 66 feet, when a satisfactory test yield of over 30,000 gallons per hour was obtained.

This exceptional source is doubly valuable in view of the difficulties being experienced in maintaining a sufficient output from the Well at Holt Road, Fakenham since it will eventually be possible to make substantial reductions in the demands made upon the Fakenham source.

No material extensions have been made during the year to the water supply serving the parishes of Fakenham and Hempton together with No. 82 Division of War Camp and the R.A.F. Station, West Raynham.

Regular bacteriological samples were taken from the Fakenham and Hempton Water supply and all these proved satisfactory, whilst a sample submitted to the Public Analyst on the 17th. December resulted as follows:-

Chemical results (Grains per gallon)

Free acid soluble ammonia	Nil
Aluminium chloride	Nil
Calcium chloride	2.3
Nitrogen in nitrates	0.17
Nitrates	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate	Nil

Hardness

Total hardness	21.6°
----------------	-------

Bacteriological results

Colonies per ml on agar at 37° C.	1
Bacillus Coliform absent in 100 ml	
Physical characteristics	- Bright and clear.

Opinion - This is a pure and wholesome water, of great organic and bacteriological purity and quite suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

There are 1124 dwellings in the parishes of Fakenham and Hempton of which 1,021 are connected to the main water supply, an increase of 93 during the year.

A total of 77 samples of water were taken during the year from 28 different sources of supply. These were made up as follows:-

Routine samples from public water supplies	34
Initial samples from private wells	29
Repeat samples from private wells	13
Source of supply found to be unsatisfactory	15
Number of premises where an alternative supply was provided	6
Wells cleaned out or repaired	8

SALVAGE Parish scavengers at Fakenham and Hemiton have continued their collections whilst monthly calls at Parish Salvage Depots have been made whenever necessary.

The following table gives details of materials dealt with during the year:-

<u>Material</u>	<u>Received</u>			<u>Disposed of</u>		
	<u>Tons.</u>	<u>cwts.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>Tons.</u>	<u>cwts.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
Wastepaper (all grades)	34.	8.	108	27.	5.	48
Bones		16.	0		16.	0
Rags		19.	49		17.	0
Bottles and Jars	2.	5.	56		15.	0
Miscellaneous metals	2.	19.	0	1.	13.	0
Kitchen Waste (estimated)	18.	0.	0.	18.	0.	0
	59.	8.	101	49.	6.	48

Note: The balance of materials was held at the main salvage depot for disposal in 1947.

The income received during the year was £303.4.6. which represents about 87% of the 1945 figure. During the same period the expenses, including the usual payments to charities amount to £279.8.0.

Kitchen waste is collected in the parish of Fakenham.

GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME

One property was released from requisition leaving 14 dwellings still in use at the end of the year; eight premises were in use by persons inadequately housed.

THE INFESTATION ORDER 1943

The Council continued to utilise the services of the Norfolk County Council War Agricultural Executive Committee in an attempt to co-ordinate the destruction of rats and mice on agricultural and other premises.

The resultant charges continue to be met from the local rate fund.

During the year 29 parishes were dealt with under the scheme at a total cost of £164.12.6.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT 1928.

The following is a summary of licences issued and fees received under this heading:-

Number of stores licensed	49
Total storage capacity	39,150 gallons
Fees received	£29.15.0.

CONCLUSION. The year has been notable for progress in the fields of district scavenging and public water supply - although it is of course true that a very great deal has still to be done in both these phases of the Council's responsibility.

Some considerable progress has also been made with the preliminary Rural Housing Survey recommended by the Hobhouse Committee; from the figures available it is clear that Housing work will for many years dominate the scene so far as local government is concerned.

At the end of December I resigned my appointment with the Council having obtained a similar post with the Hertford R.D.C.

I must at this time pay tribute to the excellent support I have always received from the Council, Public Health Committee, Clerk and other members of the staff, whilst within the Public Health Dept. We were a happy team in which Mr. A.H. Eagle eagerly accepted full responsibility for the Rural Housing Survey and District Scavenging arrangements and carried out these duties with distinction.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
H.E.GILBY
Surveyor and Senior Sanitary Inspector.

